



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY  
LANSING



STEVEN E. CHESTER  
DIRECTOR

January 3, 2006

Mr. George Hough, Water & Wastewater Supervisor  
Sawyer International Airport and Business Center  
417 Avenue A  
Gwinn, Michigan 49841

Dear Mr. Hough:

SUBJECT: Operating Plan Approval  
Sawyer Wastewater Plant Septage Receiving Facility

Review of the Sawyer Septage Receiving Facility Operating Plan is complete. The purpose of the review was to ensure that the plan contained all of the required elements listed in Part 117, Septage Waste Servicers, Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended. The operating plan is approved. The receiving facility must operate in accordance with the approved plan. If a change in operations or conditions is anticipated, please file an amendment to the plan at least thirty days prior to the proposed date for implementation. Please note that this approval is conditioned such that the identified service areas restrict only the disposition of septic tank waste pumped within those areas. Land application of septage pumped from outside the service areas may continue to be land applied to approved land-application sites within the identified boundaries.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at the number below.

Sincerely,

Brett A. Wiseley  
On-site Wastewater Unit  
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Section  
Water Bureau  
517-241-1452

BAW:DLR

cc: Mr. Fred Benzie, Marquette County Health Department  
Mr. Richard Falardeau, Water Bureau, DEQ  
Mr. Matthew Campbell, Water Bureau, DEQ

# **Sawyer**

## **INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AND BUSINESS CENTER**



Airport Office: 225 Airport Avenue • Gwinn, MI 49841 • (906) 346-3308 • Fax: (906) 346-3309 • www.sawyerairport.com  
Development and Administrative Office: 417 Avenue A • Gwinn, MI 49841 • (906) 346-3137 • Fax: (906) 346-7001

**DATE; November 14, 2005**

**TO; Matthew Campbell, Septage Waste Program Coordinator**  
Drinking Water and Environmental Health Section  
Lansing Operations Division  
Water Bureau

RECEIVED  
MICH DEPT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY

NOV 28 2005

WATER BUREAU  
GROWTH & DEVELOPMENT  
WELL CONSULTATION UNIT

**FROM; Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant**  
125 G Ave  
Gwinn, Mi. 49841  
Receiving Facility

The Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant is located at 1080 M94 Gwinn, Mi. at the former K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base. Our hours of operations are 7:30 AM to 8:00 PM Monday thru Friday, 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM Saturday & Sunday.

We are currently receiving septage waste, and will continue to receive septage waste for treatment at our treatment facility. We are accepting Domestic septage and Food establishment septage. Our service area is 15 radial miles from the receiving facility.

Our wastewater treatment plant designed flow is 1 MGD with 1000 BOD loading. At the current time the average .244 MGD with a CBOD loading of 11.8 lbs a day including septage. We average about 4,300 gallons of septage a day. At this time we do not limit the amount of septage that we will take in a day.

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The Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant is designed as a tertiary treatment plant. At this time we are only using half of the plant as secondary treatment.

We have a 1,000,000 gallon industrial lagoon that all of the sewage from the industrial area goes into. The septage haulers dump the food establishment septage and the domestic septage into the industrial lagoon. We take Leachate and tainted water in the industrial lagoon. The lagoon is aerated and has a mixer.

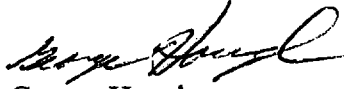
Every thing that is put in the industrial lagoon is pumped to the oil/water separator tanks. The oil/water separator tanks discharge to the headwork's of the wastewater plant. The discharge pumps for the industrial lagoon are controlled by a timer. We can pump to the

plant as much as we want or isolate every thing in the lagoon. We have not had any odor control problems with the aerated lagoon.

We notified the 3 townships that are in the 15 radial miles of the wastewater plant that we are accepting septage waste at this time and plan to continue accepting septage. We published a notice in the local newspaper, telling the public where to review our operating plan and we did not receive any comments.

Our current price for accepting septage is \$40.00 per 1000 gallons. The price is subject to go up after the first of the year when the county of Marquette looks at it again.

Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "George Hough", written in a cursive style.

George Hough  
Water & Wastewater Supervisor

## **NOTICE OF PROPOSED SEPTAGE ACCEPTING PLAN FOR SAWYER WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT**

According to Michigan DEQ we must make public notification to all legislative body of each township served by the Sawyer Waste Water Treatment Plant that we are going to treat septage waste.

The Sawyer Waste Water Treatment Plant is currently accepting and proposes to continue to accept domestic septage waste and food establishment septage on a limited basis hauled by a licensed hauler at our plant located at 1080 M-94, Gwinn, MI 49841. The domestic septage waste accepted will be from a service area in a 15 radial miles of the Sawyer Waste Water Treatment Plant.

The hours of accepting domestic septage waste will be 7:30 am to 7:30 pm Monday thru Friday and 7:30 am to 3:00 pm Saturday and Sunday.

We have been receiving domestic septage waste in our industrial lagoon since October 2004 without any noticeable odor or any adverse effect on the wastewater plant operations. In fact the domestic septage is helping in plant operation, making the wastewater plant to operate more efficiently.

The proposed Septage waste operating plan is available for review and written comments between 8:00 A.M. and 3:30 P.M. Monday thru Friday at the Sawyer Business Center located at 417 A Avenue, Gwinn, MI.

The Sawyer Waster Water Treatment Plant is owned and operated by the County of Marquette.

Septage Receiving Facility  
Operating Plan

June 9, 2005

Conditions regarding septage acceptance at your wastewater treatment plant may include receiving facility capacity (hydraulic and organic), volume of septage received, odor control, and other information required under Part 41, Sewerage Systems, of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451.

We must also advise you of the requirement to provide public notification before you submit your operating plan to the DEQ for review and approval, pursuant to section 11715b of Part 117. For more details on this requirement, please see item 1 on pages 2 and 3.

We hope that you decide to continue to accept septage waste for treatment. If so, please fill out and submit the attached information to the address listed below. This is the basic information that must be contained in your Operating Plan as mandated by Part 117. The DEQ will review your Operating Plan, and when we determine that it is complete, we will approve your receiving facility for continued septage acceptance and treatment.

We request that your Operating Plan be submitted by September 1, 2005, so we may have time to review and approve it by the October 12, 2005, deadline. Doing this will ensure that you may continue the acceptance of septage at your receiving facility. The DEQ will post the approved operating plans on the DEQ Septage Program website.

SAWYER WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

Name of receiving facility (wastewater treatment plant)

George Hough

Name of Superintendent/Chief Operator of receiving facility

11/14/05

Date

☐ Check this box if domestic septage is not accepted at your receiving facility (WWTP) and mail back to the address listed below.

1. If you plan to continue receiving septage waste for treatment at your receiving facility you are required to do the following (see Sec. 11715b. of Part 117) before submitting your proposed operating plan to the DEQ for review and approval:

(a) Publish notice of the proposed operating plan in a newspaper of general circulation in the area where the receiving facility is located.

(b) If the person maintains a website, post notice of the proposed operating plan on its website.

(c) Submit notice of the proposed operating plan by first-class mail to the county health department and the legislative body of each city, village, and township located in whole or in part within the service area of the wastewater treatment plant to which the receiving

County of Marquette  
Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Facility  
(906) 346-9403  
Last Updated on October 1, 2004

## **LIQUID WASTE ACCEPTANCE PERMIT**

**LICENSES, CERTIFICATES, AND MANIFESTS:** All domestic septage and holding tank wastes are required to be transported to the facility in vehicles that have a valid license from the State of Michigan or the State of Wisconsin. All other trucked waste material must be accompanied by a Uniform Hazardous Waste Manifest (USEPA Form 8711-22) obtained from the Michigan Department of Natural Resources.

**REGIONAL AND LOCAL SEWER USE ORDINANCES:** Waste haulers must abide by all regional and local sewer use ordinances. These ordinances define an extensive list of definitions, rules, and regulations that liquid waste haulers are required to comply with in addition to those listed here. By signing this document, liquid waste haulers agree to comply with all the terms and conditions of regional and local sewer use ordinances.

Appendix A describes many of the specific ordinances that pertain to the disposal of liquid waste material. If you do not have a copy of Appendix A, or wish to obtain a copy of the regional and/or local sewer use ordinances, you may contact the Authority's office. Please note that these ordinances contain severe penalties in addition to those described herein.

**FACILITY HOURS:** Weekdays – 7:30 a.m. through 8:00 p.m. (Eastern time zone). After 4:00 p.m. the gates MAY be closed and locked for security reasons. From 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. there is at least one plant operator on site that will open the lagoon gate when notified by telephone (906-346-9403).

Weekends/Holidays – 7:30 a.m. through 3:00 p.m. The lagoon gate may be closed, preventing entry, unless prior arrangements have been made with the on-duty operator.

**DISCHARGE LOCATION:** Liquid waste material may be discharged into the facility's system only as directed by facility personnel. The normal discharge location is the Liquid Waste Disposal Station, located at the Industrial Lagoon of the facility.

**LOAD VERIFICATION:** Each responsible party and/or their agent(s) are required to log-in each load into the facility's Liquid Waste Log Book BEFORE any material is allowed to be discharged into the facility. The Liquid Waste Log Book contains individual sections for each registered responsible party and/or it's agent(s). Upon turning to their specific section, each responsible party and/or their agent(s) will find a form on which to record the date and time the material was brought in, their truck's

MDEQ/WDNR ID number, the driver's name, the nature of the liquid waste, and it's volume (in gallons).

**Sampling:** As part of the conditions to discharge liquid waste material into this facility, all responsible parties and/or their agent(s) shall allow unconditional sampling of their waste materials. Sampling is performed in the following manner.

After a driver has logged-in a load, the waste haul driver and/or a plant operator may take a sample of the waste material being discharged.

Samples are taken to verify the waste's contents and to assure the correct liquid waste charge(s) are assessed. (See the Special Conditions section for other provisions that may apply to sampling requirements.)

**SANITARY CONDITIONS:** The discharge of liquid waste material can and will at times cause the discharge of waste material to areas other than those directed (spills, leaks, etc.). The responsible party and/or their agent(s) (drivers) are expected, *and required*, to clean up after themselves. In addition, a 5-gallon plastic pail has been provided for the disposal of any bulk material.

**BILLING:** Charges for liquid wastes accepted at the Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant will be billed on the first of each month for wastes received during the previous month. The volume billed is based on the loads recorded on the Liquid Waste Log Sheets.

**PAYMENTS:** Checks should be made payable to *County of Marquette*. Payment in full must be received on or before the last day of the month in order to avoid interest charges. All past due balances will be subject to interest charged at the rate of 1.5% per month, or 18% per annum.

**CHARGES:** Costs for dumping liquid waste into the Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant is subject to a schedule of charges based on the strength and nature of a particular type of liquid waste. Rates are subject to change and may be adjusted periodically as required. Responsible parties wishing to obtain an estimate of costs for a particular type of liquid waste should contact the plant supervisor. (See phone number on page 1.)

**SPECIAL CONDITIONS:** *Material(s) of unusual strength, odor, or other irregularities may require special handling.* If a responsible party wishes to dump a load that fits this description, they **MUST** make arrangements prior to discharging, to assure the liquid waste's compatibility and/or to minimize the impact on the facility's discharge waters and the surrounding areas. A responsible party and/or its agent(s) who fails to comply with this condition **WILL NOT ONLY PLACE IN JEOPARDY** their privileges to use this facility, but are exposed to all the liabilities for any damages incurred.

**Special Sampling:** Any liquid waste that meets the above conditions may be required to be tested prior to discharge into the facility.

**DISCHARGE LOCATIONS:** Use of manholes must be under supervision of plant supervisor or his/her representative. If a responsible party and/or its agent(s) receives temporary permission to discharge into an alternate (manhole) location, their driver must replace the manhole cover each and every time the cover is removed. In addition, as this practice poses the hazard of injury to persons and equipment, their driver must attend the manhole throughout the time the cover is removed and until the cover is removed and until the cover is replaced. Replacing the cover in any position other than its fully seated position is not acceptable. **A responsible party and/or its agent(s) whose driver(s) do not strictly adhere to this section are subject to immediate, irrevocable, and permanent removal of discharge privileges.**

**INDEMNIFICATION AND HOLD HARMLESS AGREEMENT:** The undersigned, as authorized representative of the indicated company or individual, hereby agrees to defend, indemnify, and hold harmless the Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant officers, agents, employees, and principles from any and all claims, damages, causes of action, fines, penalties, or other expenses incurred by the Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant in the connection with the acceptance and treatment of any materials supplied pursuant to this agreement. This agreement shall apply to the undersigned and any of its agents, servants, principals, or successors in interest. This indemnity agreement is intended to completely indemnify the Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant itself.

In addition, the undersigned, and any representatives referred to in this section agree to pay any attorney fee incurred by the Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant/County of Marquette in connection with the enforcement of any portion of this agreement.

**SUMMARY:** This simple set of guidelines is designed to provide harmony between the Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant and the individual liquid waste hauler(s) utilizing the treatment facility.

These guidelines are effective as of the date of this document. It should be noted that all parties involved shall be expected to adhere to this agreement with no exceptions. Deviations from this permit shall jeopardize a liquid waste hauler's ability to utilize the Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant for disposal of liquid trucked waste. Also, at the Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant's discretion, fines can and will be levied against anyone caught violating these guidelines.

A copy of this permit and other matters relating to the Sawyer Wastewater Treatment Plant's acceptance of various liquid wastes shall be kept in the Liquid Waste Log Book, located in the front entry way of the facility's administration building.